

- **Pic 1** ... **Thune**, “Every command in Scripture points us to our own inadequacy (bottom line), magnifies the good and holy nature of God (top line), and causes us to look to Jesus as the One who forgives our disobedience and enables our obedience. In other words, the law drives us to Jesus and Jesus frees us to obey the law” ... We are called to cease from obtaining our own righteousness through performance and pretending ... Remember, when doing either one, we’re actually setting aside the work of Jesus and putting forth our own, assuming a position and responsibility that we cannot fulfill for ourselves ... **Gospel Grid**
- Thus, Paul says [5:16](#) ... The Holy Spirit is the One who keeps us free – [2Cor3:16-18](#) ... As we walk by the Spirit, He are asking Him to lead us and we are following His lead – no matter where He goes or how He goes ... As we walk with Him, He begins to transform our mind, behavior, attitude, and habits ... And as these are transformed, our desire for the former things begins to grow smaller and easier to ignore – because sin has lost its power over us ... [Ro6:14](#) – previously, those who lived under the law had no hope of escape from sin’s power or penalty; now, those who live under grace have been released from sin’s power and penalty through Jesus
 - Now, even though sin has lost its power over us, you and I remain powerless to keep temptations at bay, and to keep ourselves **walking in step with the Holy Spirit** ... There is a war going on within us, not just going on around us ... Left to ourselves, we are our own worst enemy – [5:17](#) ... The enemy wants to put us back in chains; He wants us entangled in sin and addiction, especially those that come natural to us ... In our own strength and wisdom, we don’t have the means to say “NO” when everything else is saying “YES”
 - We need the Holy Spirit, and we need Him to fill us on a daily basis with Himself ... Not because He leaves us, but because we need to daily depend on His presence and power, so that we are not depending upon ourselves ... You may have the Spirit, but does the Spirit have all of you ... [Eph5:18](#) ... Paul contrasts two things that are meant to control whomever they fill ... In your life, how much is the Holy Spirit in control, and what are the things He has control of, and what are the things He does not have control of? ... We need the Spirit of God to tell us and show us, each day, the areas and situations that we’ve not handed over control
 - In [Phi2:12-13](#), “**work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God who is working in you both to will and to work according to His good purpose**” ... God, through the Holy Spirit within us, is the One who is giving us the will-power and ability to follow His leading and instruction ... So, we are to work out our own salvation, meaning see our salvation through till the end, with fear and trembling ... The realization that living inside of you is God the Holy Spirit – He is all-powerful, He is all-knowing, He is active, and He is holy
 - So, the reality of [Gal5:16](#) is possible – though we cannot escape temptations, we can resist them; we don’t have to give in and obey ... Are we being filled with the Holy Spirit; are we being controlled by Him; are we continually aware of His Holy Presence within us ... So as to influence: what we do, what we watch, what we listen to, how we treat others, how we talk to others, how we talk about others, how and what we think
- In [vs19-21](#), Paul is contrasting the works of the flesh with the fruit of the Spirit in [vs22-23](#) ... The works of the flesh come natural to mankind – we don’t have to try hard to sin ... **Flesh** – [sarx](#), speaks of **what’s done according to self; all sorts of evil that mankind is capable of doing apart from the intervention of God** ... Those who continually sin in these ways, without repentance and signs of wanting to change, Paul says, such people will not inherit what God promises because they don’t belong to Him ... This is not talking about those of us who struggle with the same sin over and over again ... Or those of us who give in to temptation ... This is a person who cares not what God thinks or says, and who is determined to live their life the way they want ... Instead of being under the influence of the Holy Spirit, they are under the influence of Satan and the world around them

- The fruit of the Spirit, then, by contrast, is produced by the Holy Spirit ... The fruit gives witness that the Spirit is in you, and that you have given Him control of your life ... What, then, is the fruit of the Spirit ... It is the Holy Spirit forming and living out the character of Christ in you and through you
 - The fruit of the Spirit is singular, suggesting that there is 1 fruit, Love, that is evidenced in 8 different ways ... Incidentally, these 8 ways also match up with the 8 Beatitudes in Matthew 5, which also flow from Love
- Now, why do I say that the fruit of the Spirit is Love:
 - [Gal5:6](#) – true salvation results from the inside out ... **Boice**, “faith must issue in a genuine and self-denying love for others” ... The fruit of the Spirit is not grown merely for our benefit; it’s to serve others ... How is this love seen – ways of joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control ... [5:13-14](#) – Paul repeats what he has just said ... Same word for Love is used each time
 - Paul says that love is the fulfillment of the law ([Rom13:8-10](#)) ... Love is the greatest way ([1Cor13](#)) ... We are to walk in love and put on love, as those loved by God and demonstrated by Christ ([Eph5:1-2](#), [Col3:14](#)) ...
 - Jesus says the greatest commandment is to love God and to love others ([Mar12:30-31](#)) ... He says that the world will know we are His disciples by our love for one another ([Jo13:34-35](#)) ... He calls us to remain in His love ([Jo15:9](#)) ... He calls us to love those who are hard to love ([Mat5:44-46](#))
 - God is Love ... And His love is holy, all-consuming, all-powerful; it goes to the highest of heights and the darkest of shadows to rescue all of those He is pursuing ... [Rom5:5](#), “God’s love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us” ... 1) God’s love for us; 2) God’s ability to love others; 3) God’s ability to love Him ... How does this happen – through the Holy Spirit
- Therefore, [5:24](#) ... There has been a decisive action taken, on the Cross and in our life ... We want the Holy Spirit to work in us, bringing about His transformation within – root out what does not belong, plant deep what is of Christ ... If we are going to walk with the Spirit, we need to be led by Him, and keep in step with Him ... In doing this, His fruit is produced in us and through us, for the benefit of others and for the glory of Christ

